

## GEORGIA GOVERNMENT TRANSPARENCY & CAMPAIGN FINANCE COMMISSION

## Memorandum

TO:

David Emadi

**Executive Secretary** 

FROM:

Joe Cusack

Senior Staff Attorney

DATE:

November 18, 2021

RE:

RECOMMENDATION FOR ADMINISTRATIVE DISMISSAL

In the Matter of William Allen Stone, III

Case Number: 21-0025-C

On September 23, 2021 the Georgia Government Transparency and Campaign Finance Commission ("Commission") received a third-party complaint filed by Marcelo Fuentes ("Complainant") alleging that William Allen Stone, III ("Respondent") had violated the Campaign Finance Act ("Act") by not including a firewood business on his Personal Financial Disclosure Statement ("PFDS") which was filed covering the calendar year 2020.

Respondent was the unsuccessful candidate during the 2021 election cycle for the position of the Mayor of Cumming. Respondent qualified to run for Mayor of Cumming and although not required, filed a PFDS that disclosed his various financial interests and investments. This third-party complaint alleges that Respondent sells firewood from a rental home, and he failed to disclose this on his PFDS.

Commission Staff spoke to Respondent during this investigation and was able to determine that Respondent had a tenant who was selling firewood at one of the rental properties Respondent owned. Respondent's tenant was cited for a code ordinance for selling this firewood without a proper permit. It became obvious that Respondent did not own this business nor have any sort of interest in the sale of this firewood and thus this was not something remotely close to having to be disclosed on his PFDS.

Since no violations of the Act occurred, there is no basis to basis to proceed. Based upon the forgoing analysis, this complaint should be administratively dismissed pursuant to Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. 189-2-.03(5).



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Memorandum	
I, David Emadi Executive Secretary of the Georgia Gover Finance Commission, agree with the above analysis to an Thus, the above-referenced complaint shall stand dismiss	lministratively dismiss this complaint.
2 /ml/	11/18/2021
David Emadi, Executive Secretary	Date